Modernisation of Khadi textiles

2549. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY :
SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA :

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the steps Government have taken to improve and modernize Khadi Textiles for better acceptability and popularity;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have signed an MoU with the Textiles Committee to make available laboratories for quality testing and certification of Khadi products; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM) : (a) To improve and modernize Khadi textiles for better acceptability and popularity, the KVIC has taken a number of steps such as setting up of silver plants for supplying quality silver, availing expertise from Non-Governmental Organisation (NGOs) like Dastkar Andhra and Rural Development Agency (RUDA), Rajasthan, for improvement of the quality as well as imparting training to Khadi artisans, tie-up arrangements with the National Institute of Design (NID), Ahmedabad and National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) for developing better designs, fashions etc. in Khadi textiles; launching of "Stiff and Soft" finishing process of Khadi cloth with the help of Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi.

(b) and (c) KVIC has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Textiles Committee (TC) to make their laboratories available for quality testing/certification of Khadi products. The MoU, *inter-alia* provides for the TC to provide testing facilities to Khadi institutions, undertake market surveys, provide technical consultancy for ISO 9000 and to evolve systems to differentiate Khadi from other textiles. The KVIC will provide finance, logistic support and all other assistance for successful implementation of the MoU.

Expansion of oil production industries

†2550. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL :
SHRI LAJPAT RAI :

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether any scheme has been formulated by Government for the development and expansion of the oil production industry at the rural level by crushing the oil seeds produced in the country;

(b) if so, the outline of the scheme and the assessment made by Government regarding the number of people who earn at present their livelihood through this industry throughout the country;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Multinational Companies have already entered in this industry; and

(d) if so, the names of such MNCs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM) : (a) No, Sir. As intimated by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution no such scheme has formulated. However, the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP), promotes the development of agro and rural industries including oil seeds crushing in the rural areas of this country.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) As intimated by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), a list of proposals approved by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board for foreign equity participation/foreign collaboration by foreign companies including MNCs in the Vegetable Oils and Vanaspati sector including crushing of oil seeds is at Annexure (*See* Appendix 199 Annexure No. 13).

Setting up of rural industries

2551. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to set up door-to-door industries in the rural areas of the country on the pattern of Japan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to industrialise the villages?